39808 to 39816. ANNONA CHERIMOLA × SQUAMOSA. Annonaceæ.
Atemoya.

From Lamao, Bataan, Philippine Islands. Presented by Mr. P. J. Wester, horticulturist, Lamao Experiment Station. Received January 11, 1915.

Cuttings of the *atemoya*, a new hybrid between the cherimoya and the sugar-apple.

"In 1908, at the subtropical laboratory, Miami, Fla., the writer successfully hybridized the cherimoya and the sugar-apple, the sugar-apple and the custard-apple, the cherimoya and the mamon, and the mamon and the sugar-apple. Several hundred seedlings resulted from this work, part of which were planted out in 1910, the hybrids between the cherimoya and the sugar-apple showing remarkable vigor and thriftiness. In 1911, hybrid seeds of the same combination from a cross made in 1910 were brought to the Philippines and the seeds sown in March of the same year. These hybrids exhibited the same remarkable vigor, and some attained a height of 2.3 meters in one year and bloomed when they were 16 months old. No fruits resulted, however. This year (1913), in the course of the reorganization work at Lamao, where the plants are growing, it became necessary to transplant the hybrids, and their fruiting is on that account unfortunately delayed for another year." (*Wester, Philippine Agricultural Review, vol. 6, 315, July, 1913.*)

The further history of these hybrids is told in the Review for February, 1914: "The blossoming season of the cherimoya is somewhat in advance of that of the custard-apple, but owing perhaps in part to the shock and retardation due to the transplanting, a few flowers appeared in June on one of the transplanted hybrids. One of these was pollinated with pollen from the custard-apple (*Annona reticulata* L.), with the result that it set, and a fruit developed and ripened October 8, 1913. The following is a description of the fruit: Size small, weight 280 grams; length 7.7 cm., equatorial diameter 7.6 cm.; cordiform in shape, with prominent carpels and distinct areoles; exterior yellowish green, almost glabrous; skin very thick and tough; flesh white, tender, and melting, with a slight trace of fiber, juicy, subacid, rich, and aromatic; flavor excellent, very similar to a good cherimoya with a dash of the delicate sweetness of the sugar-apple; seeds 4 to 7, similar in shape to cherimoya seed, but darker colored. The fruit is rather small, but regular and well shaped, about the size of a sugar-apple, which was to be expected considering that the father parent, the cherimoya, was also undersized. With the employment of large-fruited cherimoyas for breeding work we may also anticipate a progeny with larger fruits. The *atemoya* plants, of which there are 23 that have not yet fruited, are very similar in appearance to the cherimoya, and the fruit is also practically identical with the prominent-carpelled cherimoyas. Superior to the sugar-apple, it is not claimed that the *atemoya* is an improvement upon the cherimoya, but it has been hoped by crossing the cherimoya with the sugar-apple the excellent flavor of the subtropical cherimoya, which does not succeed well in the low latitudes near the Equator, might be imparted to the progeny, and that the other parent from the lowlands would impart to it adaptability to a tropical climate. It would seem that this anticipation has been realized in the above instance. The name *atemoya*, which is here being proposed for this new race of fruits, is derived from a combination of one of the old original names of the sugar-apple, *Ate panniccnsis* (quoted from Hernandez, in his work 'Nova Plantarum, Animalium et Mineralium Mexicanorum Historia,' published in 1651), and cherimoya." (*Wester.*)